

*CC.
may
Paul*

"The Smouldering Ruin and the Ivyed Wall":
Archaeology at the Oglethorpe Site,
St. Simons Island, Georgia

By

Nicholas Honerkamp

Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

January, 1984

RECEIVED

MAR 09 1984

FORT FREDERICA

Acknowledgements

The research reported in the following pages represents the combined efforts of several individuals and organizations. The Fort Frederica Association was the project sponsor, providing funds to support the research activities. The interest this group has shown over the years in projects such as the present one has contributed greatly to our understanding of St. Simons' rich colonial heritage. I am particularly indebted to Mr. J. Dewey Benefield of Sea Island Properties, Inc., and to Ms. Ellen V. Britton, Superintendent at Fort Frederica National Monument, for their gentle insistence that I do the project, followed by their constant encouragement once it was underway. The support of the National Park Service staff at Fort Frederica is acknowledged, as is the cooperation of the site's landowner, Sea Island Properties, Inc. Sandy Zitkus typed and proofed this paper, while Robin Smith provided me with a very extensive and useful critique of an earlier draft. Finally, I wish to extend my professional and personal appreciation to the crew members who made it all possible by carrying out the field work: Alan Ball, Carol Dickert, Robert Lambdin, Lynda Lancaster, David Pasko, Penny Seabury, David Tyrer, Carla Yount, and Sheron Yount. The dedication of these archaeologists to this research was truly exceptional. Whatever merit this report may deserve is largely due to their efforts; any errors contained herein are my responsibility.

NH

Introduction

The location of James Oglethorpe's house near Fort Frederica has been the subject of considerable popular, if not scholarly, speculation. Oral tradition on St. Simons Island has placed the house in various areas; at one time or another, virtually every abandoned brick or tabby foundation within a one-mile radius of Frederica has claimed the honor. As is so often the case, contemporary records give conflicting or confusing accounts and, when coupled with active imaginations and wishful thinking, compound the problem even further. Into these muddled historical waters archaeologists from the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology (University of Tennessee-Chattanooga) were asked to wade. This paper summarizes the results of preliminary research carried out at one of the better "candidate" sites suspected to be Oglethorpe's briefly-occupied homestead.

One of the thorniest problems faced by historical archaeologists is associating the fragments of the archaeological record with known personages or events. Such an approach is fraught with difficulties due to the incompleteness of the documentary and archaeological records and to the complexity of the formation of the archaeological record, which is subject to the ravages of "time's arrow" (Ascher 1961; Binford 1981). Although particularism is well-entrenched in popular opinion as a primary goal of archaeology, the trend in the discipline over the last 25 years has been towards a broader anthropological approach that concentrates on the definition of patterns of past behavior as they are expressed in the archaeological record (e.g. Deetz 1977; South 1977). The goals of the present project are threefold:

- 1) To carry out a particularistic study aimed at determining whether the site in question was ever occupied by the founder of colonial Georgia, James Edward Oglethorpe. This question is of primary interest to the project's sponsor--the Fort Frederica Association--as well as to many local residents with an interest in the history of Georgia and the Golden Isles.
- 2) To determine the scientific value of the site. This goal is largely independent of the first; whether or not the site was associated with Oglethorpe is of less concern at this level of research than are the condition and extent of the archaeological record.
- 3) To record the extant remains at the site in as much detail as possible. This goal derives from a preservation ethic that considers archaeological sites as unique, nonrenewable resources. Besides the natural forces contributing to the degradation of the archaeological remains at the site, it was obvious that cultural forces, particularly "relic collecting," were responsible for a great deal of disturbance to and disorganization of the archaeological record. As this process is likely to continue in the foreseeable future, it was imperative that the site remains be documented before further adverse effects occurred.

The Fort Frederica Association generously agreed to fund preliminary research at the site, providing the UTC archaeologists with an opportunity to address all three goals. Fieldwork was carried out over a one-week period (August

19-27, 1983) and involved 220 person-hours of effort. Laboratory analysis was carried out at the Institute on a part-time basis during the following three months. Analysis and report production required 290 person-hours. The author served as principal investigator and supervised both phases of the research. Other than the usual impediments found on the coastal islands during the summer (heat, humidity, sand gnats, and thousands of seed ticks), there were no physical constraints on the fieldwork. However, time constraints did limit the scope of the research program at this site.

Research Design

The following discussion explains the methods and techniques employed to achieve the project objectives described above.

The difficulties in linking Oglethorpe to the site on the basis of direct archaeological evidence are many and varied. Assuming for the moment that the site did belong to Oglethorpe, it must be remembered that his stay in Georgia was brief and that he was often absent from Frederica. He was also a bachelor who apparently lived a relatively modest life for someone of his stature (Spalding 1977). Finally, of the few possessions that he may have kept in his house, most would have returned to England with their owner in 1743. Other than a limited number of lost items and a larger assemblage of generalized refuse-type artifacts (broken ceramics, glass, bone fragments, etc.) which cannot easily be used to distinguish between individual colonists, there is almost nothing in the potential archaeological record that might be used to "prove" that "Oglethorpe slept here." However, another line of evidence is available: the documentary record. Floyd and Floyd (1936) have summarized the documentary information on the subject of the Oglethorpe house and conclude that one site in particular provides the "best fit" of the available data. Their observations and conclusions will be critically reviewed in the following section.

While direct archaeological confirmation of an association between Oglethorpe and the site was not anticipated, an alternative approach to this problem is appropriate: it is possible, using archaeological data, to demonstrate that Oglethorpe could not have occupied the site because it was not built until after his return to England. This would be indicated if certain temporally-sensitive artifacts at the site were found to post-date his tenure. Specifically, temporal information concerning the construction of the house was sought by testing for builder's trenches both inside and outside the structure. Subsurface foundations are often situated in builder's trenches (construction trenches for footings) which frequently can provide a terminus post quem for the construction of the house (Noel Hume 1969:116-117). Locating and excavating such a feature was a primary objective of the fieldwork phase.

A number of approaches could have been used to determine the extent, condition, and significance of the archaeological remains; all are based on systematic survey techniques. Due to limited time and finite human resources, an approach which maximized the amount of information gained from the effort expended was selected. The approach used consisted of a systematic interval survey employing small screened test pits of standard size. This technique is well-suited to the wooded terrain at the site and the supervisors and crew were thoroughly familiar with it, having carried out a similar survey at Fort

Frederica two weeks previously. In addition, the information obtained under this format is comparable with the Frederica survey results, allowing meaningful comparisons to be made between the two data bases. Assessment of the significance of the site is dependent, at least in part, on its relationship to other archaeological sites.

Besides use of a systematic survey, judgmentally-placed test pits were used to determine the nature of the archaeological record at the site. These screened tests were also of standard size, though larger than the survey tests. Their placement depended on the results of the survey (i.e., to further investigate possible features that had been uncovered) and was designed to address specific questions, such as those concerning the construction date of the foundations and the degree of disturbance attributable to relic collecting.

The third goal--documenting the extant remains at the site--was achieved as part of the research associated with the first two goals. As is true of bulldozers and looters, archaeologists destroy contextual information as they excavate. However, we also record this information as it disappears by mapping and photographing the features and/or artifacts, measuring the horizontal and vertical positions of archaeological deposits, and keeping notes on the entire excavation process. In fact, the meticulous recording of data invariably is more time-consuming and demanding than the actual excavation. This was certainly the case at the Oglethorpe Site. As part of the site documentation goal, a Georgia state site file form has been completed and forwarded to the office of the State Historic Preservation Officer.

The fragile nature of the archaeological record at the Oglethorpe Site constitutes a compelling reason for documenting the remains. "Recreational" digging over the years by untrained individuals has severely threatened the site. Recent large-scale logging activities on St. Simons Island (part of an intensive program to eradicate the Southern Pine Beetle) have also damaged the archaeological remains. Since unauthorized persons have fairly easy access to the site, the possibility exists for continued damage and destruction. Awareness of this threat demanded, on professional and ethical grounds, that the site be recorded for future scientists and interested members of the public.

Site Setting and Background

The Oglethorpe Site is situated in a stand of mature hardwoods (primarily live oak) which formerly had included pines (now removed). A dense understory is present. This area lies directly east of Fort Frederica National Monument on land owned by Sea Island Properties, Inc. As shown in Figure 1, a large amount of "trash" timber had been deposited on the site, and disturbances attributable to logging, relic collecting, and the foraging behavior of feral pigs were much in evidence. Moss-covered tabby foundations, at ground level, compose the most obvious feature at the site; a small mound of dirt within the confines of the foundations was left by looters. The surrounding terrain is uniformly flat and well-drained, although standing water associated with a swamp occurs within 100 m of the site. The location of the foundations relative to the town and fort at Frederica has considerable importance, as discussed below.

Documentary information relating to the Oglethorpe Site was summarized by M. H. and D. B. Floyd in 1936. In an article entitled "Oglethorpe's Home at Frederica," published in the Georgia Historical Quarterly, these authors synthesize oral tradition, documentary and cartographic data, and field observations to substantiate their claim that James Oglethorpe was indeed associated with the site. The foundations were shown to the Floyds in 1929 by John Stevens, whose grandfather (John Mazo) was a British colonial soldier stationed at Fort Frederica; prior to his death, Mazo had identified the site and ruins as belonging to Oglethorpe. Mrs. Charles Taylor, another long-time resident of St. Simons Island and the sister of John Stevens, corroborated this story in 1936, adding that she "used to pick up pieces of broken chinaware about the tabby and play with them" (Floyd and Floyd 1936:240). Although a definitive identification of the site cannot rest on this evidence alone, it should be pointed out that this oral tradition spans only three generations and is based on the first-hand experience, rather than secondary knowledge, of John Mazo. A direct linkage in oral history information of this type is rare for any but the most recent time period and is almost unheard of for the colonial period.

The Floyds also examined the question of the site's location with reference to the Oglethorpe/Military road that is shown on the 1801 McKinnon map (reproduced in Cate 1930) and the 1740 Thomas map (on file at the Georgia Historical Society Library). According to measurements taken by the Floyds from the latter source, the Military Road joined the Oglethorpe Road east of the Frederica commons. The Oglethorpe Road, which exits from the main town gate at Frederica, extends straight east for a considerable distance before being joined by the Military Road from the south, as seen also on the McKinnon map and the map reproduced by Charles C. Jones, Jr., in The Dead Towns of Georgia (1878:45). Several accounts confirm this placement of the town and the two primary roads leading to it. Bartram mentions this road in his 1774 Travels (1940), and an earlier traveler named Edward Kimber provided this description of Frederica in 1743:

To the East it has an extensive Savannah (wherein is the Burial Place) through which is cut a Road to the other side of the Island... Down this Road are several very commodious Plantations, particularly the very agreeable one of Capt. Demery, and that of Mr. Hawkins. Pre-eminently appear Mr. Oglethorpe's settlement, which at a distance looks like a neat country Village, where the Consequences of all the various Industries of an European Farm are seen... At the Extremety of the Road is a small Village called the German Village... (Jones 1878:122).

James Spalding, who the Floyds note was "probably" a Regimental soldier, owned and lived in the Oglethorpe house until shortly after the Revolution (Floyd and Floyd 1936:249). Writing in 1840, his son Thomas observed that "at General Oglethorpe's cottage a road diverged due east, passing in about a half a mile to the seat of Captain Raymond Demere" (Spalding 1840:274). Thus, on the basis of these descriptions, the relative placement of the Oglethorpe house to Frederica (due west) and the Demere house (due east) is established.

The cartographic information is not as amenable to interpretation. Although the three maps mentioned above are in agreement as to the direction of the

Oglethorpe Road, the point at which it is joined by the Military Road varies, as does the location of Demere's house, also known as Harrington. (Oglethorpe's house is not shown at all on any of the early maps.) According to the Thomas map, the road bends to the southeast after leaving the Frederica town commons but before encountering the marsh. Spalding's descriptions, although made 100 years after this map was drawn, seem to agree with it. The Floyds conclude that this same road is the one constructed under Oglethorpe's direction in 1738 and that it is not the "later" road to the south (i.e., Frederica Road) that is depicted on numerous 19th century maps (see especially Cate 1930) and which is in use today. (It is adjacent to Frederica Road that a historical marker has been placed which identifies the location of the Oglethorpe house site for thousands of curious tourists every year. The accuracy of this marker is, to say the least, suspect.) It should be mentioned that the present terrain surrounding Frederica supports the Floyd/Spalding argument. Inspection of the 1956 Brunswick East Quadrangle topographic map reveals that the driest route through the crescent of marsh to the east of Frederica is approximately 250 m north of Frederica Road. Again, this tallies well with Spalding's observations that the road proceeded east through the commons but bent southeast before hitting the marsh. Historical markers notwithstanding, Frederica Road cannot be made to conform to this account. When it is recalled that, prior to 1950, Frederica Road actually cut through the southern portion of the colonial town's earthworks, terminating at the Frederica River south of the fort, it becomes clear that this road was probably not contemporaneous with the colonial settlement, but rather was subsequent to it.

Another piece of the puzzle presented by the Floyds is their description of the "known" location of old Harrington Hall (the original Demere house) being one-half mile east of the Oglethorpe Site--exactly as described by Spalding. Old Harrington Hall thus emerges as an important source of evidence for identifying the Oglethorpe Site. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, the UTC archaeologists were not able to field-check the location of the Demere house remains and for the present we must rely on the Floyds' statement that this second site had been "seen within memory of living persons" (1936:247), although not, it might be added, by the Floyds themselves.

In summary, the Spalding descriptions, the selective oral history accounts, and the 1740 Thomas map support the Floyds' contention that the "Oglethorpe Site" lives up to its name; the other historical maps neither conclusively support nor contradict it. Future documentary research as well as a survey to locate the Demere house may provide additional information useful in testing the "Floyd Hypothesis." Let us now, however, examine the documentary record for evidence relating to the house itself rather than its location.

Besides Kimber's "country Village" description quoted earlier, the Floyds located several other sources which provide contemporaneous accounts of Oglethorpe's house. The homestead apparently included at least 50 acres of land, part of which was put under cultivation; the Floyds mention that this land became generally known as "The Farm." While Kimber admired it for its "industriousness," Samuel Davidson, who admittedly was not on the best of terms with Oglethorpe (see Roberson 1842:112-113), complained that in 1739 the General had taken away part of the commons from freeholder use and was still cultivating it in 1741. Oglethorpe was reported to have employed Henry Manley as an overseer in 1741 at 50 pounds sterling per year, and he had at least 14

"servants" engaged in agricultural work (Davison 1842:110-112). John Terry, a shameless sycophant, praised Oglethorpe's farm in 1742 as "worth all the rest" (Candler 1914:356). Spalding describes "The Farm" as a "humble homestead" consisting of a "cottage, a garden, and orchard for oranges, figs, and grapes" (1840:273). He also mentions that it was overshadowed by oaks of every variety, and that it "looked to the westward across the prairie" (1840:274). This last observation--that the entrance to the house was on the west--constitutes a critical piece of evidence that we will return to later.

Besides the sources reviewed by the Floyds, the only other contemporary reference to the house comes from the journal of William Stephens, who was appointed as the Secretary of the Trustees in 1737. According to his entry for September 1, 1740, Stephens attempted to visit with Oglethorpe at Frederica, but he was informed that the General was too ill for a meeting. Instead of an interview, Stevens "sent him his Packets by Mr. Hawkins," indicating that Oglethorpe was not lodged in the town proper. The next day Stevens did visit Oglethorpe, but the sympathetic secretary noted that he

...wished to have found his Excellency in better Health, for a lurking Fever that hanged on him for a long Time past had worn away his Strength very much; so that he indulged himself pretty much on his Bed, and seldom came down Stairs... (Stephens 1966:494).

This passage indicates Oglethorpe was confined to his own house, which consisted of at least two stories.

The Floyds conclude that "The Farm" was an unpretentious residence because it never was intended as a permanent home. Instead, it served as a model of a frontier home/farm that Oglethorpe hoped would encourage other settlers and soldiers at Frederica to make long-range commitments toward self-sufficiency and permanence. Unfortunately, when Oglethorpe returned to England in 1743, "The Farm" ceased to function as a positive example for the settlers. Scarcely two years after the General's departure, a "civil officer" at Frederica made the following complaint to the Trustees:

I humbly submit to Yr. Honrs. consideration the worth of such officers as Leaves their Post, and Command at St. Simon at the close of the Evening in time of War and in the Mouth of the Enemies, to come Eight Miles from thence to a place call'd the Genls. Farm, and that only to fight a Cock (Candler 1915:248).

These nocturnal cockfights may have occurred at the Oglethorpe house itself, although this is doubtful given the close proximity of the town. More likely, the "sport" occurred at a location farther removed from earshot of military and civil officialdom, but still within the confines of "The Farm."

The demise of Oglethorpe's model homestead was apparently a rapid one. For in a 1750 letter to the Trustees, the President of the Colony had this to say:

The land which was called the Farm near Frederica, supposed to be about Three Hundred Acres mostly Marsh, was cultivated under the direction of General Oglethorpe, but for what use, we know not, and neither did we ever understand, that He or any other

Person claimed it as their Property. The Land itself is of little value, and the improvements, which we suppose were done at a great Expense are gone to ruin (Candler 1916:25-26).

The house itself, or a rebuilt version of it, may have survived up to the 1770s. James Spalding sold the cottage and 50 acres of associated land after the Revolution, and his son Thomas implies that the house had been burned by British soldiers or sympathizers. In a sadly eloquent statement from "A Sketch of the Life of General James Oglethorpe," Spalding wrote that by 1840 "the smouldering ruin and the ivy wall are all that now remain to tell where General Oglethorpe lived, or how he labored" (1840:249). The Floyds, visiting the site in 1936, found tabby foundations slightly above ground level (1936:245). The foundations were rectangular in outline, measuring approximately 16 by 32 feet; the Floyds assume that the house was originally built entirely of tabby. On the basis of Kimber's 1743 description of housing at Frederica, they also assume that the exterior walls were covered with wooden shingles, although there is no mention of how the shingles might have been attached to the tabby, or why tabby walls would have been covered with shingles to begin with.

In summary, the Floyds provide us with a thorough, reasoned, and intriguing interpretation of the documentary and oral history data. Although they have not "proved" that Oglethorpe lived at the site under consideration, they have presented several lines of evidence in support of this assertion, and it certainly provides a solid documentary foundation against which the archaeological data can be assessed. The remainder of this paper is devoted to a discussion of the archaeological data retrieved from the site and how these data can be applied to the research objectives defined for this project.

Fieldwork

As illustrated by a comparison of Figures 1 and 2, considerable effort was devoted to clearing vegetation from the site through the use of chainsaw, machete, and ax. Once the site was exposed, the basic dimensions and orientation of the house foundations were revealed and a metric grid system was established, using transit and chain, to achieve horizontal control. Vertical control was maintained through the use of a transit and stadia rod; a transit station was established to maintain consistent datum readings throughout the fieldwork period. The longitudinal axis of the house was found to be 17 degrees, 7 minutes west of north.

Four transect lines were laid out for the survey (see Figure 3). The transects were oriented to the cardinal directions using the tabby foundations as the base point for each line. Transect 4, which contained only two test pits, was offset from the other lines due to the presence of large trees. Test 2-5 was offset 50 cm north of the Transect 2 line for the same reason. Test pits were placed at 10 m intervals, with one exception: the interval between Tests 4-1 and 4-2 was 15 m due to the presence of large tree roots. A total of 14 survey test pits was dug using shovel and trowel. All of these 50 cm square tests were excavated to sterile and were screened using 1/4-inch hardware cloth. Prior to backfilling, stratigraphy was recorded using measured field sketches and soil color descriptions referenced to a Munsell color chart. Tabby, brick, and shell material was quantified and discarded. All other artifacts were retained and recorded according to provenience.

In addition to the survey methodology outlined above, limited testing was carried out through the excavation of four judgmentally-placed 1 X 1 m test units, as shown in Figure 3. TU-1 was located on the interior north wall of the structure (see Figure 4) in an attempt to locate a builder's trench and to assess the degree of disturbance to the archaeological record resulting from previous "diggings." TU-4 was placed adjacent to the west exterior wall for the same reason (see Figure 5). The other two units, TU-2 and TU-3, were expanded from earlier survey tests (1-2 and 2-3, respectively) in order to delineate possible features. As were the survey units, these larger tests were dug to sterile using shovel and trowel; they were screened with 1/4-inch mesh; and they were recorded according to artifact content and stratigraphic characteristics.

During the fieldwork the supervisors and PI each kept narrative-style notes describing the procedures used and recording the data generated. The tabby foundations were mapped, as shown in Feature 6, and both color slides and black and white photographs were taken to document the results of the research. In order to test the efficacy of the 1/4-inch screened sample, column samples were taken from tests 2-1, 3-2, and TU-2. Six samples were collected (two from each unit). Processing at the Institute consisted of fine screening using 1/8-inch and 1/16-inch mesh, followed by analysis of soil acidity using a pH meter.

Upon completion of the fieldwork the site was covered with brush in order to obscure, and hopefully protect, the archaeological remains from further disturbance.

Laboratory Analysis

After being washed and dried at the Institute's Archaeology Laboratory, all artifacts were catalogued according to the type-class-group system of Stanley South (1977). This analytical format has been found to be a useful descriptive tool at 18th century and early 19th century sites and has been used successfully by the author to organize and interpret extensive artifact collections from colonial sites at Frederica (Honerkamp 1980). Due to the small size of the Oglethorpe assemblage, weights and frequencies were tabulated by hand. South's mean ceramic data formula (1972) was used to estimate a mean occupation date for the site, using the entire ceramic assemblage; estimates for sub-assemblages from particular features or test units were not attempted due to the problem of small sample bias. It is assumed that the complete assemblage is representative of the occupations at the site, although this cannot be empirically substantiated without a great deal more excavation. Laboratory notes of all analytical procedures and results were kept by Lab Manager Sheron L. Yount. Illustrations used in this report were produced by R. Bruce Council; Robert Lambdin drew the reconstruction of the Oglethorpe house shown in Figure 10.

The artifact collection from the Oglethorpe Site is being curated on a temporary basis at the Institute while arrangements are made for permanent curation at an appropriate repository in Georgia.

Archaeological Materials

Thirteen cultural features were identified during the survey and testing; most of these are related to the building foundations. A total of 593 artifacts was found, including 249 ceramic fragments. Construction materials consisted of 10 g of brick and tabby fragments, along with 64 g of oyster shell. Also recovered were 112.2 g of bone. Of the six soil samples taken, none possessed pH values below 7.1 and the mean value for all the samples was 7.9. According to Heizer and Graham (1967:126), soils with a pH value below 7.0 are acidic, resulting in degradation of faunal remains. The pH values for the Oglethorpe Site indicate moderate to good bone preservation conditions. Fine screening of soil samples using 1/8-inch and 1/16-inch screen resulted in the recovery of only 0.1 g of bone and a single small sliver of glass, suggesting that the 1/4-inch screen size used at the site was adequate for obtaining reliable artifact samples; at least no significant bias against small artifacts is indicated by these results.

Feature 1 was assigned to the rectangular portion of the tabby foundations noted by the Floyds in 1936. As shown in Figure 6, the exterior dimensions of the structure are 9.4 m (31.0 ft) by 4.89 m (16.1 ft); all the walls were c. 31 cm (1.0 ft) thick. These measurements differ only slightly from the 16 by 32 ft dimensions reported by the Floyds. Although much of the tabby was in an eroded condition, the top of the foundations in several places was smooth, indicating that they were built originally as foundations. A wood-frame building, supported by joists resting on the flat-top, above-ground tabby substructure, is indicated by this evidence. These finished foundations of a consistent height directly contradict the Floyd's contention that the house had tabby walls. If the walls had been robbed for re-use as building material, the remaining footings would have presented a much rougher, irregular appearance than those at the Oglethorpe Site.

Feature 2 consists of a tabby extension abutting the east wall of Feature 1. It was apparently overlooked during the Floyds' 1936 inspection. Measuring 2.90 m (9.6 ft) north-south by 3.00 m (9.9 ft) east-west, this nearly square foundation is offset north of the center point of the Feature 1 east wall by c. 30 cm (1 ft). The appearance of the Feature 2 tabby is similar to that of Feature 1, but this does not preclude the possibility that it was added on at a later date. A large tabby block (Feature 4) was present in the approximate center of Feature 2; its function is unknown. The function of Feature 2 is likewise a matter of conjecture. One possibility is that it served as the foundation for a porch or, assuming that the structure contained two stories (recall the 1740 Stephens journal entry on this subject), a stair landing. The interior of Feature 2 was highly disturbed by looters who apparently considered this enigmatic tabby extension to be a prime location for bottles.

A tabby and brick fireplace on one end of the main structure was designated Feature 3. This feature was obscured by soil and humus and was discovered during the clearing operation. Illustrated in Figures 6 and 7, the fireplace was centered on the south interior wall of Feature 1. It consisted of two tabby cheek walls, each 31 cm thick, extending c. 1.38 m (4.6 ft) north from Feature 1. Both had supported mortared fire bricks, and bricks had at one time filled the 2.30 m (7.6 ft) interior space between the pilasters. Except for a single course of headers against Feature 1, however, the interior fire bricks were dry-laid. No fire-scarred brick or tabby was noted, and no ash or

charcoal was found, indicating that the burning of fuel had occurred at a higher level, on bricks that have since been robbed away. This suggestion is consistent with the evidence for a raised-joist, above-ground floor mentioned earlier. It should be noted that the dimensions of this fireplace are considerably larger than those reported by Fairbanks (1956) for the Hawkins-Davison houses at Frederica.

In the center of the Feature 1 west wall a grooved impression, 1.28 m (4.2 ft) long and half as wide as the foundation wall, was noted. This rectangular impression (Feature 10) apparently had seated a portion of a wooden door sill (Figure 6). Its position in the west wall of the building is noteworthy due to Spalding's 1840 description of the Oglethorpe cottage, which "looked to the westward" (1840:274). It is argued that Spalding's use of this phrase indicates that an entrance, and probably windows, were located on the structure's west wall. Archaeological evidence of window placement is lacking, but the central placement of the door on the western foundation is strongly supported by the discovery of Feature 10. A central door is also consistent with contemporary housing designs at colonial Frederica and Savannah. The Trustees had specified that domestic structures be built in the Georgian style (Candler 1933:288), which is based on symmetrical floor plans and facades that incorporate a central door flanked by equally-spaced windows. A centrally-placed stairwell opposite the door would also be in keeping with a Georgian architectural plan.

The features remaining to be discussed were uncovered during the excavation of the testing and survey units. In attempting to locate a possible builder's trench, two 1 X 1 m test units were placed adjacent to Feature 1. TU-1 was located on the interior of the north foundation (see Figure 6). After removing approximately 20 cm of disturbed fill, sterile brown sand was encountered on the south half of the unit, while a contrasting pit fill was revealed on the north half (Figure 8). Looking suspiciously like a builder's trench, the fill from this feature was composed of dark gray and brown soil mottled with flecks of shell, tabby, and brick. It was labelled Feature 6.

The artifact collection recovered from Feature 6 contained 29 ceramic fragments dating to the second through fourth quarters of the 18th century, including a single plain delftware sherd, 1 slip-dipped white salt glazed stoneware sherd, 4 fragments of lead glazed earthenware (3 with red paste), and 15 sherds of creamware. Fourteen aboriginal sherds were also found. Other artifact classes included dark green wine bottle fragments, white clay pipe stems, nail fragments, and a small amount of bone. Indicative of the highly mixed nature of this feature were the most recent artifacts recovered from it: five Coca-Cola bottle caps. Once the pit had been completely reamed, it was found to have an irregular, meandering bottom, which is the mark of the relic collector (see Figure 9). No meaningful temporal information concerning the construction date of the foundations could be derived from this recently-disturbed context.

Following this disappointing discovery, TU-4 was laid out adjacent to the west wall of Feature 1. With the hope that looting activity had been confined to the interior of the house, this 1 X 1 m unit was located on the foundation exterior (Figure 6). After excavating an overlying 25 cm thick humus zone, two features were revealed. Feature 8 consisted of a linear stain of light brown soil adjacent to and parallel to the tabby foundation. It was 30 to 40 cm wide

and was originally thought to be a builder's trench. On the west side of the unit another feature was defined. Feature 9 was the dark gray area adjacent to Feature 8. Originally interpreted as a looter's pit, it was later thought to be a possible midden deposit. Feature 9, which was 10 cm thick, produced a small quantity of artifacts, including five wine bottle fragments, one of which contained a mold mark. This characteristic is found on bottles produced after 1800 (Lorrain 1968:38). Other artifacts included a white clay pipestem, a lead musketball (diameter: 1.6 cm), seven nails, and one sherd each of creamware and lead glazed redware. Feature 8 may have been intrusive on and therefore subsequent to Feature 9, but this could not be definitely established due to humic staining, which considerably reduced feature visibility. Nearly devoid of artifacts, Feature 8 bottomed out after 14 cm of fill was removed, revealing the presence of three indistinct postholes or postmolds (Features 11, 12, and 13) adjacent to the Feature 1 wall. The terminus post quem for the filling of Feature 8 is established by the presence of blue-on-white hand painted pearlware, which has a beginning manufacturing date of 1780 (South 1977:212).

The postholes/molds under Feature 8 were irregular in shape, ranging in width from 25 to 35 cm and in depth from 6 to 12 cm. A brass tack, a clear glass tumbler fragment, and three sherds (two lead glazed earthenware, one white salt glazed stoneware) composed the artifact collection from the fill of the two southernmost postholes; the third posthole contained no cultural material. All of these artifacts possess 18th-century temporal affiliations. The function of the three postholes and the overlying Feature 8 trench or pit is uncertain. The possibility exists that these features represent the handiwork of relic collectors, and that the overlying humus zone is actually redeposition from subsequent looting activity. Alternatively, posts may have been used to brace the tabby forms during the construction of the foundations, although the use of posts in such a manner was not a normal construction technique. Another possible explanation is that the postholes were associated with an earlier wood structure which was replaced by the tabby-foundation frame house. Suffice it to say that rather than clarifying the date of construction of Feature 1, the excavation of TU-4 revealed a complex archaeological record possessing low visibility. Clearly, additional archaeological research is needed to test the competing hypotheses offered above.

The last two features to be discussed were located in transect tests. In Transect 1-2, appearing c. 35 cm below surface, was a small, highly mottled, straight-sided pit. It was sufficiently well-defined to be designated Feature 5, and Transect 1-2 was expanded into a 1 X 1 m test pit (TU-2) in order to fully expose the feature. Feature 5 appears to have been a rectangular (20 X 25 cm) posthole, 80 cm in depth. The lower portion of the posthole was difficult to distinguish due to the presence of root disturbances. The fill contained only three nail fragments and a creamware sherd. It is futile to speculate on the function of Feature 5 without additional evidence from front- and back-yard contexts.

Feature 7, located in Transect 2-3 (expanded to TU-3), was less puzzling in its probable function. This feature consisted of an irregular, shallow, tabby-filled depression measuring c. 45 cm north-south by 30 cm east-west. It was defined at 22 cm below surface and extended only another 8 cm before bottoming out. The artifact collection for this feature consisted of a dark green wine bottle fragment, three white clay pipe stems, a nail, and a sherd of refined

earthenware that could not be identified as to type. One liter of tabby mortar and brick fragments was also recovered, along with a liter of oyster shell. The tabby material included interior tabby plaster fragments, smoothly finished on one side while the other bears wood lathing impressions. Interior tabby of this type has been found in quantity at Fort Frederica (Honerkamp 1980) and at other colonial sites in Georgia (Kelso 1979). According to Nichols (1957), such interior finishing was a common practice in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The practice of filling in small back-yard depressions with refuse is also well-documented for Frederica (Honerkamp 1977). The Feature 7 deposit was most likely created during a remodeling project carried out by one of the site's occupants.

Discussion

In general, the basic size and configuration of the Oglethorpe site architectural remains are consonant with contemporary descriptions of "common freeholder" housing in colonial Georgia. If the house was indeed Oglethorpe's, this would be in keeping with his documented tendency to avoid ostentation in his lifestyle and with his attempt to create, through his own residence, a realistic model of a colonial homestead that commoners could emulate. A slight divergence from the standard housing design of the early colonial period is seen in the above-ground placement of the floor. Many of Frederica's original settlers had constructed half-basements for their homes, a practice which probably was quickly abandoned after they experienced the heavy rainfall and poorly-drained soils characteristic of St. Simons Island. The raised-joint foundations represented by Features 1 and 2 may be an example of a second-generation architectural adaptation designed to reduce moisture and rotting problems encountered in some of Frederica's first homes. The Oglethorpe Site house also differs in the unusually large dimensions of the fireplace. A positive correlation between hearth size and social status has yet to be demonstrated, but both archaeological and documentary information useful in testing this relationship are available from Frederica. If such a correlation is confirmed, Feature 3 would represent one of the few archaeological manifestations of high status from the Oglethorpe Site.

In order for the reader to visualize how this house may have looked in the 18th century, an artist's reconstruction based on actual field measurements, documentary data relating to the site, and other architectural history studies (Morrison 1952; Nichols 1957) is presented in Figure 10. The tabby foundations and their proportions, and the door and chimney placement are taken from archaeological evidence; construction materials, the Georgian facade, the pitch of the roof, and the presence of dormers are based on analogy.

Although precise dating of the architectural remains was not obtained, analysis of the artifact assemblage from the site was informative. Table 1 lists the total ceramic assemblage found at the site, including surface material. These type designations follow the descriptions of Noel Hume (1974) and South (1977), with the following exceptions: "bisque" is defined as tin enameled earthenware paste that lacks a glaze, and "miscellaneous refined earthenware" consists of earthenware possessing light-colored, refined earthenware paste characteristics but lacking other distinguishing characteristics for assigning it to a particular type. Most of these sherds were extremely small, and six were either burned or eroded. Aboriginal ceramics consisted

primarily of small sand tempered plain sherds; one of these was red-filmed. A total of 27 historic types were identified or defined, including several colonial-period wares such as plain and decorated delftware, lead glazed earthenware, Astbury ware, Rhenish salt glazed stoneware, white salt glazed stoneware, and slip-dipped white salt glazed stoneware. These types were common during Frederica's colonial occupation and their presence at the Oglethorpe Site indicates an initial occupation contemporaneous with Frederica.

Fifteen of the ceramic types recovered have sufficiently well-documented dates of manufacture to be used in estimating a median occupation date for the site through the application of the mean ceramic date formula (South 1972, 1977). Using the type frequencies, manufacturing midpoints, and products shown in Table 2, an occupation midpoint of 1787.6 was derived from 152 sherds. This date can be interpreted as indicating that the most intensive occupation of the site occurred in the last quarter of the 19th century--several years after the site was supposedly destroyed during the Revolution. But Thomas Spalding also mentions that his father had sold the house shortly after its destruction; a subsequent occupation (or occupations) is strongly suggested by the 1787 midpoint estimate and by the presence of the late-18th/early-19th century pearlware ceramic series. The near absence of the ubiquitous whiteware/ironstone series is consistent with Spalding's description of the site in 1840 as "a smouldering ruin and ived wall" (1840:249).

Using the Pattern Recognition classification system developed by Stanley South (1977), it is possible to organize the total artifact assemblage in a way that is comparable with other historic-site samples. Only 14 artifact classes, representing 8 artifact groups, were defined for the site. These figures can be contrasted with the 40 artifact classes (from 9 groups) found at two domestic sites at Frederica (Honerkamp 1980). The greatest artifact frequencies from the Oglethorpe Site were associated with the Kitchen group, as follows:

Ceramics	208
Wine bottle	67
Case bottle	19
Tumbler	7
Glassware	13

This single group accounts for 72.6% of the entire artifact sample analyzed under this format. The next highest frequency was found in the Architecture group, represented by 7 window glass fragments and 74 whole or partial nails. Of the latter, 21 were identified as wrought nails, which were common during the colonial period, while 23 showed characteristics of cut nails, first introduced in the fourth quarter of the 18th century (Fontana 1965; Nelson 1963). No wire nails (produced after 1850) were recovered. The Furniture, Arms, and Personal groups each contained a single item: a brass tack, a lead musket ball, and a glass inset from an article of jewelry, respectively. The Clothing group was conspicuous by its total lack of artifacts. Thirty-one white clay pipe stems and bowl fragments were recovered, while the Activities group consisted of an iron staple (Miscellaneous hardware) and four fragments of gray flint which may be associated with the manufacture or modification of gunflints. The possibility that this latter artifact class constitutes the by-product of prehistoric flint working is remote; the flint is similar to the English gray flint common at Frederica. Part of the oyster shell noted during

the testing may be attributed to prehistoric rather than historic occupations, or even a combination of both: aboriginal shell may have been relocated to the site as an ingredient in the creation of the tabby foundations.

The high percentage of Kitchen artifacts is believed to reflect the domestic nature of this site, although it also can be associated with occupation longevity. As suggested by Honerkamp, Council, and Fairbanks (1983:176-177), an increase in Kitchen-related artifact ratios is often observed in sites which have extensive occupation spans. Conversely, if a short occupation had occurred, relatively fewer domestic artifacts would be cycled into the archaeological record, producing a higher Architecture-to-Kitchen artifact ratio. Although the absence here of many of the artifact classes found at Frederica (Honerkamp 1980) and at other historic sites in the Southeast (South 1977) is probably a function of small sample size, the possibility exists that these contrasting data reflect a rural/urban dichotomy in material culture assemblages. Future research at the site aimed at investigating this suggestion would be of considerable interest to historical archaeologists.

The horizontal distribution of artifacts at this site may reflect the refuse disposal behavior of its occupants. Using artifact counts and weights from the transect tests, it was found that 49.9% (n=70) of all artifacts and 71.6% (25.7g) of all bone recovered from the transects occurred in the four test pits closest to the house (Tests 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, and 4-1). A nonrandom distribution of discards is suggested by these figures: refuse is localized near (and possibly in) the structural foundations. This pattern is similar to South's Brunswick Pattern of Refuse Disposal, which he defines as follows:

On British-American sites of the eighteenth century a concentrated refuse deposit will be found at points of entrance and exit in dwellings, shops, and military fortifications (South 1977:48).

Test 1-1, which is adjacent to the doorway of the house, contains the greatest amounts of artifacts and bone (31 and 19.4 g, respectively) of any 50 cm test, which is consistent with the definition quoted above. However, the Brunswick Pattern does not seem to be present at the Dobree Site (Honerkamp 1980:262-274) or at the Telfair Site in Savannah (Honerkamp, Council, and Fairbanks 1983:183). Its presence at the Oglethorpe Site may constitute additional evidence of contrasting rural/urban behavior patterns.

Artifact densities for the site were calculated as a function of surface area excavated in the transects. The results of this analysis are presented in Table 3, along with comparative values from the Dobree and Hird sites (Honerkamp 1980) and the recent riverfront survey at Frederica (Honerkamp and Council 1984). Despite the small amount of area tested, the Oglethorpe Site exhibits artifact/bone density values comparable to those from the Frederica Riverfront. These figures would undoubtedly be greater had trash-disposal features (trash pits, recycled wells and privies, etc.) been located in the transects; the density figures from the other sites include artifacts associated with such features. Based on these artifact density comparisons, the archaeological potential of the Oglethorpe Site appears to be high. The termination of the occupation(s) at the site prior to the mid-19th century (i.e., no significant artifact contributions to the archaeological record after 1840) has resulted in an artifact assemblage that is confined to a well-documented ceramic manufacturing period, giving further support to this assessment.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Both archaeological and documentary lines of evidence have been investigated in order to achieve the research objectives defined for this project. Although not conclusive, the documentary data presented by the Floyds support their view that the "Oglethorpe Site" was actually the home of James Edward Oglethorpe. Direct archaeological confirmation for this suspected association was not obtained, but indirect evidence derived from the archaeological record supports the Floyds' position. These data include the presence at the site of colonial-period ceramics, glass, and architectural materials; confirmation of the documented western entrance of the house; and the size and probable Georgian style of the house. As important as what was found at the site is what was not found: there is no indication that the initial construction and occupation of the house post-dates the period in which Oglethorpe was present in Georgia. However, additional documentary and archaeological research is needed to definitively link this site with Georgia's founder.

Numerous references have been made in the preceeding section to other contemporaneous sites on St. Simons Island and elsewhere, illustrating the usefulness of the Oglethorpe Site data for comparison with these other assemblages. In the author's opinion, this also demonstrates the potential the Oglethorpe Site has for increasing our knowledge of colonial frontier adaptations, regardless of who occupied the site; the scientific potential of the site is not "Oglethorpe-dependent." Despite disturbances to the archaeological record attributable to relic collectors, back- and front-yard subsurface features are probably present in a relatively intact state. Most of the obvious disturbances are confined to the immediate vicinity of the visible foundations, but even these areas retain scientific value. The effect of the bias introduced by looting is predictable and can therefore be controlled: whole bottles, coins, and, to a lesser extent, buckles and buttons would be removed by collectors, while other artifact classes would be ignored and left behind. Archaeologists have developed a variety of techniques for dealing with natural and cultural distortions to their data base which can be applied at this site with good results.

In summary, the condition and extent of the archaeological record indicates that the scientific importance of the Oglethorpe Site is great. The site affords a valuable opportunity for investigating regional- as well as local-level questions such as those concerning urban versus rural material culture similarities and differences, factors responsible for the Brunswick Pattern of Refuse Disposal, and the archaeological manifestations of socioeconomic status, to name but a few. In the author's opinion this site deserves to be nominated for inclusion in the National Record of Historic Places.

Specific recommendations concerning future research and preservation of the Oglethorpe Site include:

- 1) A chain-of-title for the property is needed. Deeds, plat maps, and titles located at the Glynn County Courthouse should be reviewed in an attempt to establish the 19th-century property owners. Plat maps may show structures and other improvements on the property which would provide "targets" for archaeological testing as well as indicating land use patterns over time. This documentary research would be an essential first step for interpreting the post-colonial occupations at the site.

- 2) A field survey to locate the Demere Site should be carried out in order to verify the Floyds' second-hand information concerning its presence one-half mile east of the Oglethorpe Site. Confirmation of its documented location and relationship to the Oglethorpe house would support the association of the latter site with Oglethorpe.
- 3) Additional excavations are needed to provide temporal information on the construction of the foundations. The south interior end of the structure appears to have experienced the least disturbance of any interior area, as indicated by the intact basal portion of the chimney foundation, and it is this section of the site that should be thoroughly investigated.
- 4) Extensive archaeological research should be carried out in the area surrounding the house foundations in order to locate out-buildings, wells, privies, specialized activity areas, slave quarters, etc. A resistivity survey or some other remote-sensing technique would be an appropriate initial step in this research. It is emphasized that a systematic, long-range program, based on a problem-oriented archaeological research design, is required under this recommendation.
- 5) Public access to the site should be reduced as much as possible. The Oglethorpe Site constitutes a unique archaeological resource that should be protected from intentional and unintentional destruction. The site area should be posted, followed by vigorous enforcement of trespass laws. If measures are not taken to discourage illegal visitation, the looting will continue, and more than just bottles will be stolen. The destructive activities of relic collectors will also remove the scientific value and ultimate historical significance of this site.

It is hoped that the present research will constitute a first step in the systematic investigation of an interesting and challenging historic site. As often happens when examining the human past, more questions have been raised than answered by our research. But these are the most interesting kinds of questions because of the many unexpected directions in which they may lead. They deserve the attention of laymen and scientists alike, and they deserve our best efforts to answer them.

References Cited

- Ascher, Robert
1961 Analogy in Archaeological Interpretation. Southwestern Journal of Anthropology 17:317-325.
- Bartram, William
1940 The Travels of William Bartram. New York: Barnes and Noble, Inc.
- Binford, Lewis R.
1981 Behavioral Archaeology and the "Pompeii Premise." Journal of Anthropological Research 37(3):195-208.
- Candler, Allen D.
1914 The Colonial Records of Georgia, Volume 23. Atlanta: State Printer.
1915 The Colonial Records of Georgia, Volume 24. Atlanta: State Printer.
1916 The Colonial Records of Georgia, Volume 26. Atlanta: State Printer.
1933 The Colonial Records of Georgia, Volume 34. Atlanta: State Printer.
- Cate, Margaret Davis
1930 Out Todays and Yesterdays. Brunswick: Glover Brothers.
- Davison, Samuel
1842 Affidavit No. 3 from Frederica. Collections of the Georgia Historical Society II:110-112.
- Deetz, James
1977 In Small Things Forgotten. Garden City, New York: Anchor Books.
- Fairbanks, Charles H.
1956 The Excavation of the Hawkins-Davison Houses. Georgia Historical Quarterly 40:213-229.
- Floyd, M. H. and D. B. Floyd
1936 Oglethorpe's Home at Frederica, Georgia. Georgia Historical Quarterly 20:239-249.
- Fontana, Bernard L.
1965 The Tail of a Nail: On the Ethnological Interpretation of Historic Artifacts. Florida Anthropologist 8:85-96.
- Heizer, Robert F. and John A. Graham
1967 A Guide to Field Methods in Archaeology. Palo Alto: National Press.
- Honerkamp, Nicholas
1977 Colonial Life On the Georgia Coast. St. Simons Island: Fort Frederica Association.
1980 Frontier Process in Eighteenth Century Colonial Georgia: An Archaeological Approach. Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida. Ann Arbor: University Microfilms.

- Honerkamp, Nicholas and R. Bruce Council
1984 Results of an Archaeological Investigation of the Riverbank Area, Fort Frederica National Monument. Draft manuscript, Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.
- Honerkamp, Nicholas, R. Bruce Council, and Charles H. Fairbanks
1983 The Reality of the City: Urban Archaeology at the Telfair Site, Savannah, Georgia. Bound report on file, Archeological Services Branch, National Park Service, Atlanta.
- Jones, Charles C., Jr.
1878 The Dead Towns of Georgia. Collections of the Georgia Historical Society IV:1-263.
- Kelso, William M.
1979 Captain Jones' Wormsloe. Athens: University of Georgia Press.
- Lorrain, Dessamae
1968 An Archaeologist's Guide to Nineteenth Century American Glass. Historical Archaeology 2:35-44.
- Morrison, Hugh
1952 Early American Architecture from the First Colonial Settlements to the National Period. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Nelson, Lee H.
1963 Nail Chronology as an Aid to Dating Old Buildings. History News 19:25-27.
- Nichols, Frederick D.
1957 The Early Architecture of Georgia. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.
- Noel Hume, Ivor
1969 Historical Archaeology. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
1974 A Guide to Artifacts of Colonial America. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- Roberson, John
1842 Affidavit No. 4 from Frederica. Collections of the Georgia Historical Society II:112-113.
- South, Stanley
1972 Evolution and Horizon as Revealed in Ceramic Analysis in Historical Archaeology. Conference on Historic Site Archaeology Papers 1972(6):71-116.
1977 Method and Theory in Historical Archaeology. New York: Academic Press.
- Spalding, Phinizy
1977 Oglethorpe in America. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Spalding, Thomas

1840 A Sketch of the Life of General James Oglethorpe. Collections of the Georgia Historical Society I:239-295.

Stephens, William

1966 A Journal of the Proceedings in Georgia. New York: Readex Microprint Corporation.

Table 1. Ceramic Types and Frequencies, Oglethorpe Site

<u>Ware-Type</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
EARTHENWARES	
Lead glazed earthenware	12
Lead glazed redware	9
Enameled redware	1
Astbury ware	1
Coarse agateware	3
Plain delftware	5
Blue-on-white delftware	1
Majolica/faience	1
Bisque	1
Aboriginal earthenware	41
REFINED EARTHENWARES	
Plain creamware	82
Black transfer printed creamware	1
Plain pearlware	9
Blue hand painted pearlware	14
Polychrome hand-painted pearlware	13
Blue transfer printed pearlware	2
Annular pearlware	3
Whiteware	1
Miscellaneous refined earthenware	12
STONEWARES	
Albany-slipped stoneware	3
Rhenish salt glazed stoneware	1
White salt glazed stoneware	9
Slip dipped white salt glazed stoneware	7
Alkaline glazed stoneware	2
PORCELAINS	
Plain porcelain	1
Overglazed polychrome porcelain	8
Blue-on-white porcelain	4
Polychrome transfer printed porcelain	2

Total, less aboriginal ceramics: 208

Table 2. Mean Ceramic Date Calculation, Oglethorpe Site

Type	Frequency	Midpoint	Product
Plain delftware	5	1720	8600
Blue-on-white delftware	1	1750	1750
Astbury ware	1	1738	1738
Coarse agateware	3	1780	5340
Plain creamware	82	1791	146862
Black transfer printed creamware	1	1790	1790
Plain pearlware	9	1805	16245
Blue hand painted pearlware	14	1800	25200
Polychrome hand painted pearlware	13	1818	23634
Blue transfer printed pearlware	2	1818	3636
Annular pearlware	3	1805	5415
Whiteware	1	1857	1857
Rhenish salt glazed stoneware	1	1738	1738
White salt glazed stoneware	9	1763	15867
Slip-dipped white salt glazed stoneware	7	1745	12215
Totals	152		271887

Mean Ceramic Date: $1788.7 - 1.1 = 1787.6$

Table 3. Comparative Artifact and Bone Densities

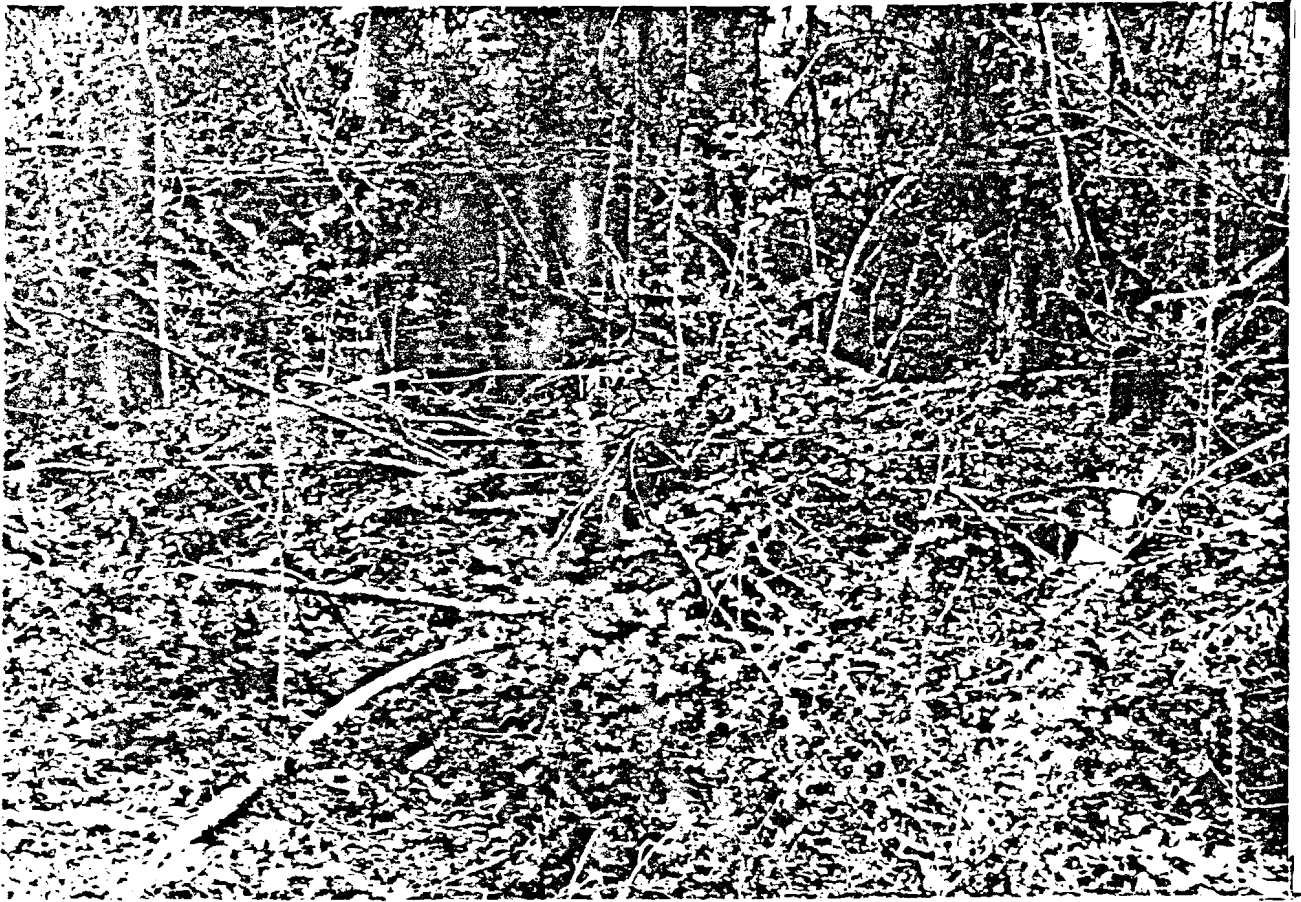
	<u>Site</u>			
	Oglethorpe	Dobree	Hird	Riverfront
Area (m2)	3.5	465	111.5	19.75
Artifact #	156	43142	12647	1176
Bone wt (g)	35.9	29845.8	37650.0	303.5
Artifact/Bone per m2	44.6/10.3	92.8/64.2	122.4/337.7	59.5/15.36

Figure 8. Definition of Feature 6, originally thought to be a builder's trench for the adjacent tabby foundation. Tan-brown sterile sand is present on the right (under the north arrow), in distinct contrast to the intrusive pit fill. View is of TU-1, looking east; scale in 10 cm zones.

Figure 9. Feature 6 after reaming; same view as in Figure 8. The highly irregular bottom of the feature revealed its true nature: a looter's pit. Such haphazard digging "signatures" are characteristic of the field techniques of relic collectors.

Figure 1. Oglethorpe Site prior to clearing. Note barely-visible oak trees at upper right for reference with Figures 2 and 5.

Figure 2. Oglethorpe Site after brush removal. South and west tabby foundations are clearly visible. The small mound in the center of the structure is attributed to relic collecting activities. Facing south; scale in 50 cm zones.



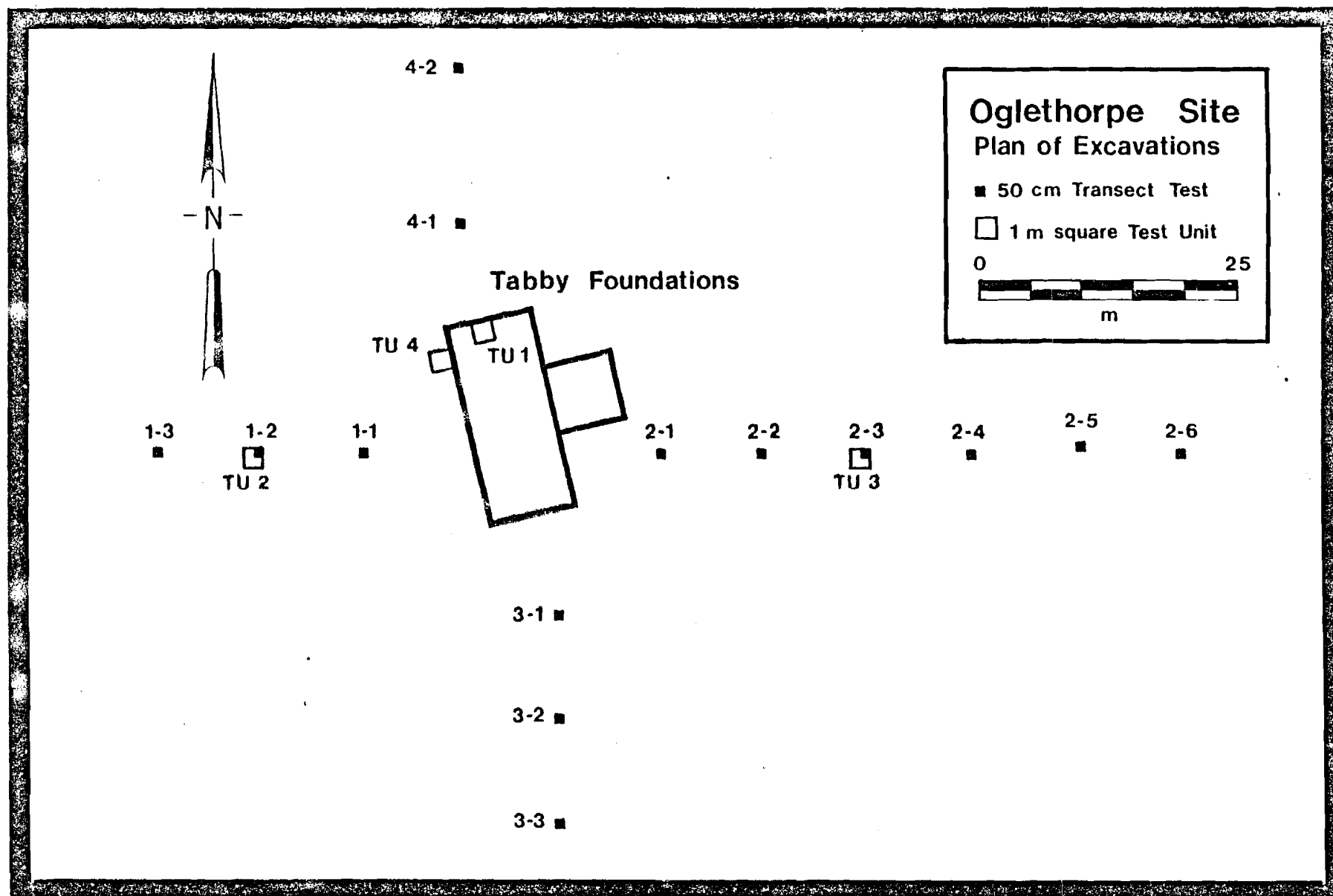


Figure 3. Planview drawing of tabby foundations, locations of 50 cm² transect tests, and locations of 1 m² test units.

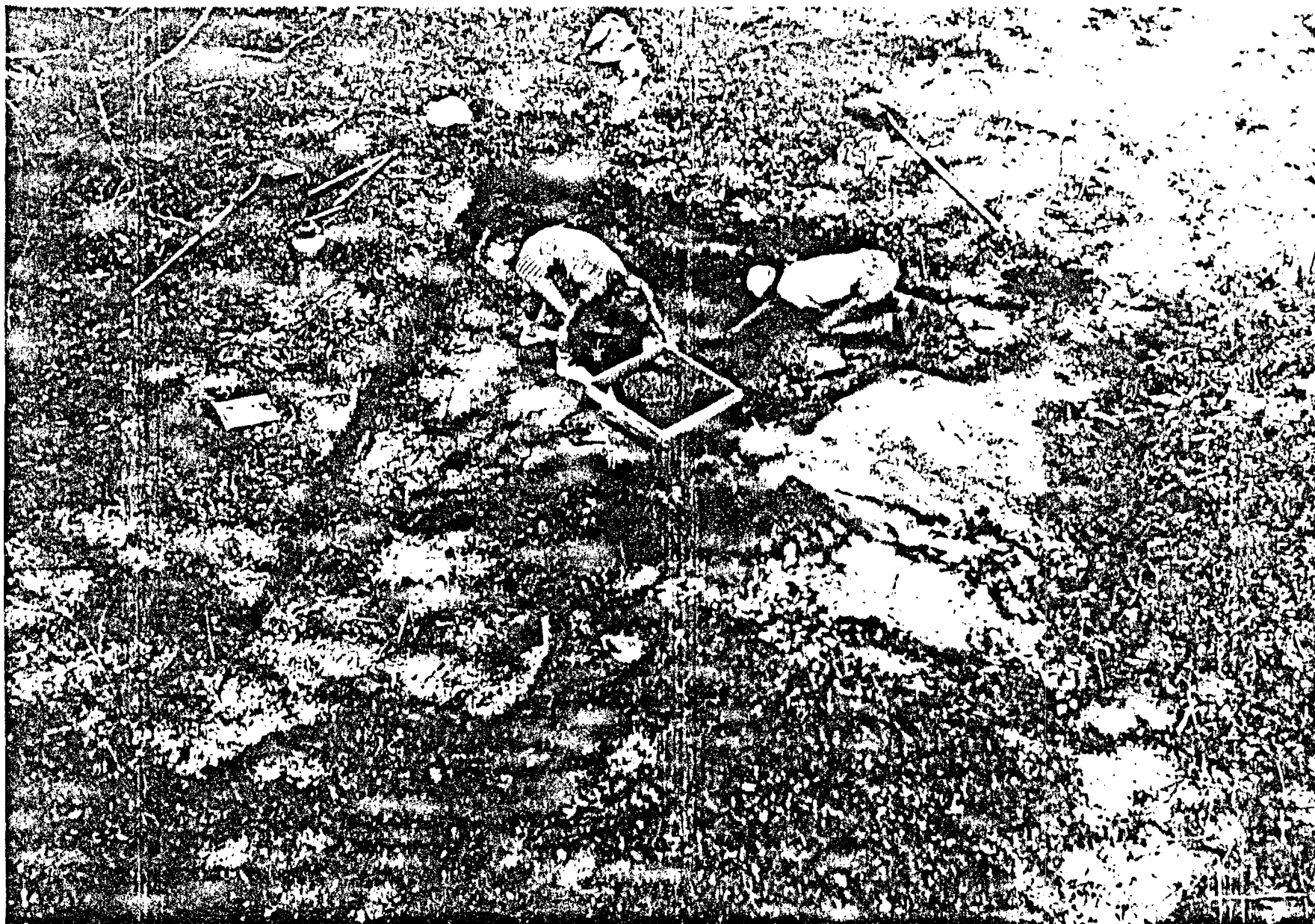


Figure 4. Overhead view of fieldworkers Carol Dickert and Carla Yount (on right) troweling and screening Test Unit 1. View is to the northwest.



Figure 5. Excavation of Test Unit 4 adjacent to the west foundation exterior. All four of the wall footings are visible in this view. Excavators are, left to right, Supervisor Carla Yount, Lynda Lancaster, and Alan Ball. Facing south.

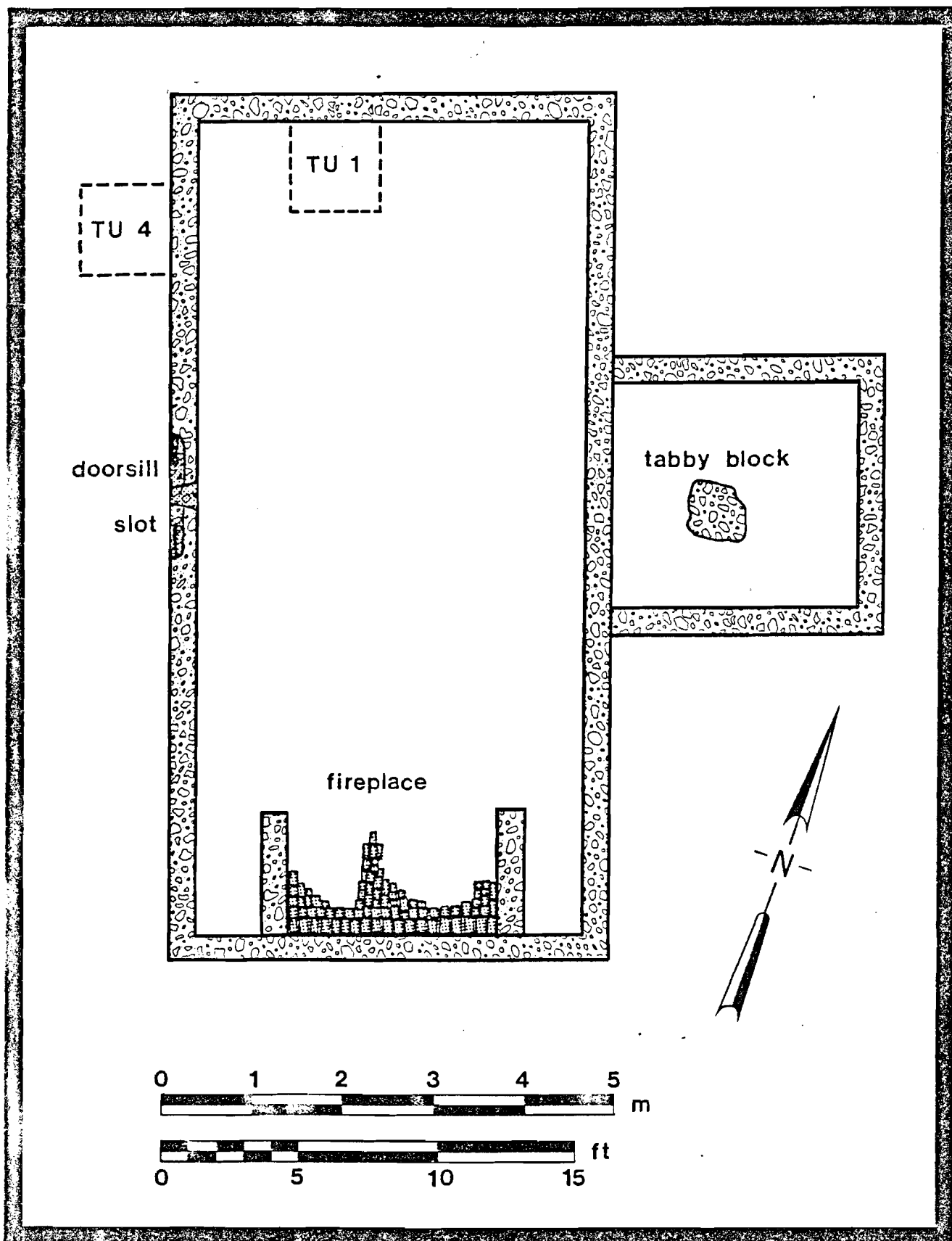


Figure 6. Planview of tabby foundations and brick fireplace footing. Note door sill depression at the center of the west wall footing. The Feature 2 extension on the east wall is slightly offset to the north.

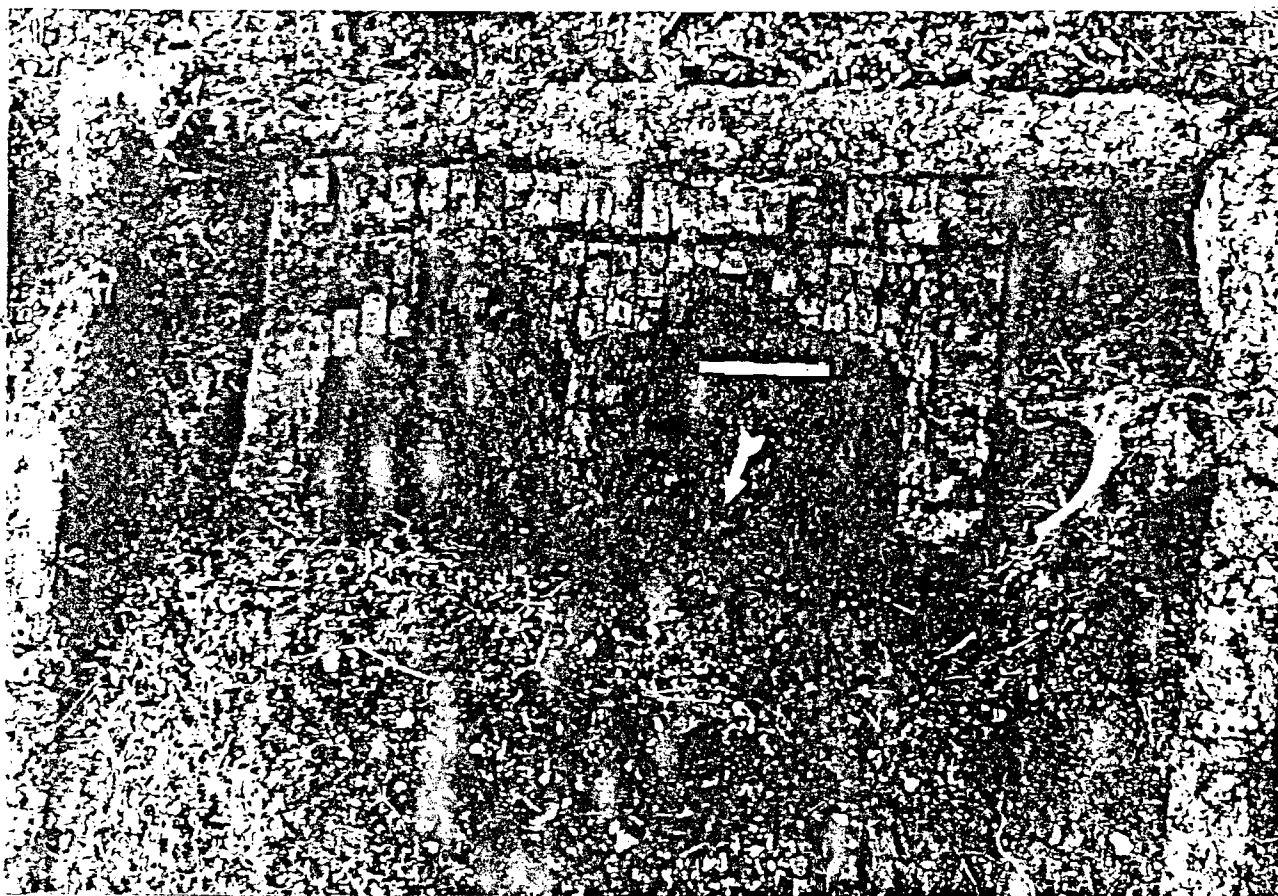
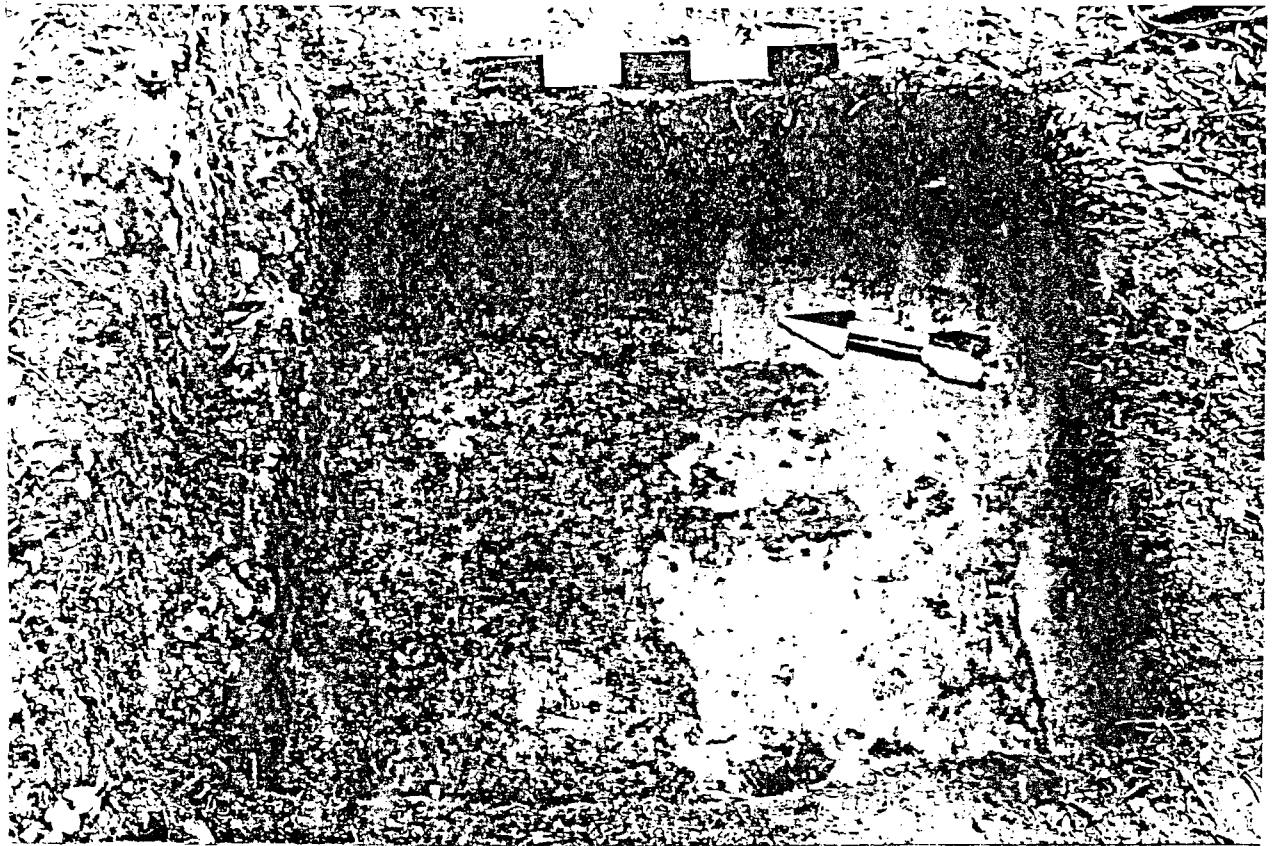


Figure 7. Overhead view of Feature 3 fireplace remains on the south interior of the building. The tabby pilasters show brick impressions. The working floor of the fireplace originally was several courses higher but had been robbed away to the present level. Note tree-stump damage to Feature 1 west wall. Scale in 10 cm zones.



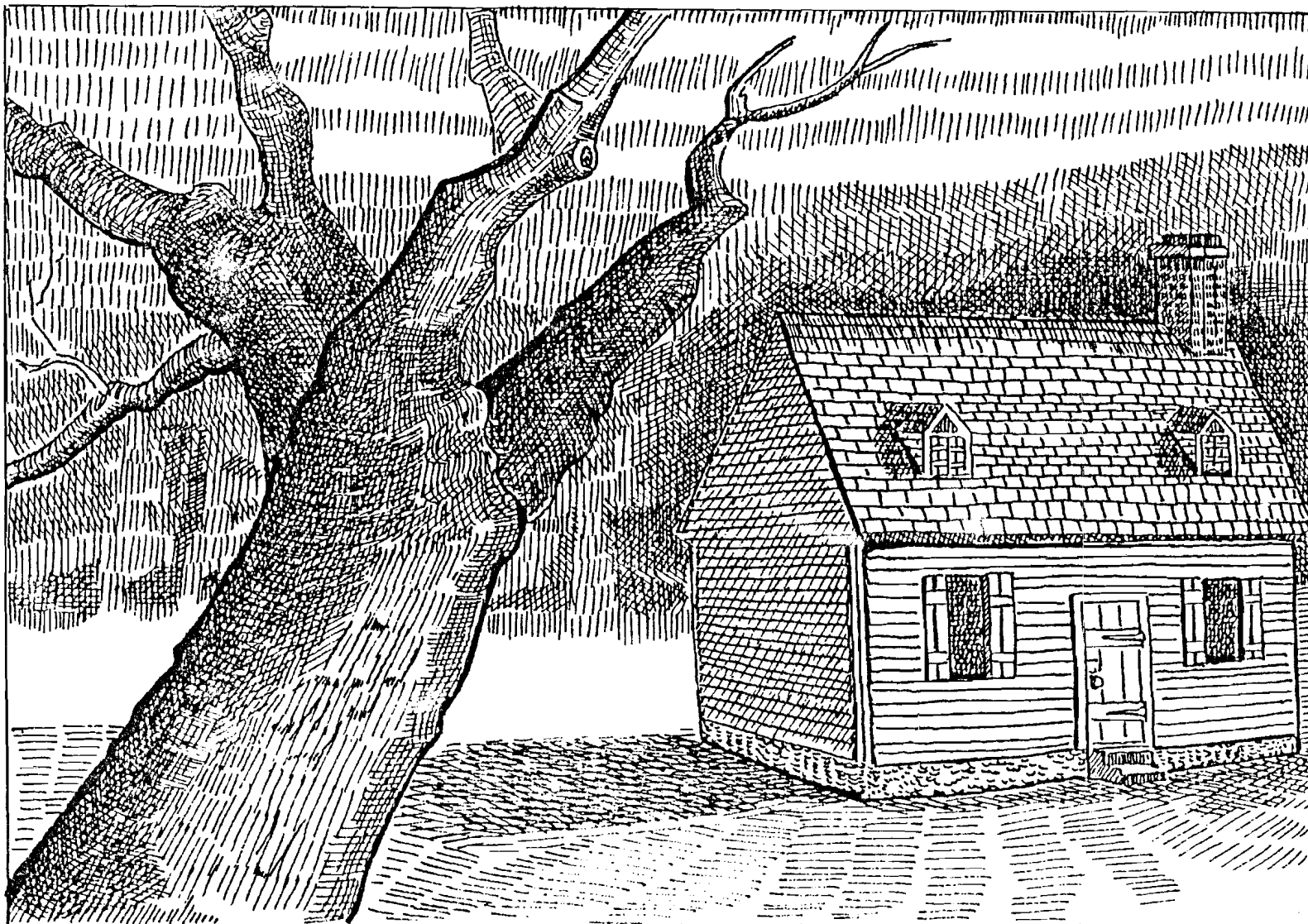


Figure 10. Reconstruction of Oglethorpe Site house, based on field measurements and documentary data. View is to the east. Artist: Robert Lambdin.